

# Academy Ballet School of Annapolis, LLC

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

Eileen Razzetti, RAD, RTS, Founder/Artistic Director ♦ Lindsay Johnson, RAD, RTS, Associate Artistic Director

Dear Parents,

Your child has been selected to participate in the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) Certificate (Exam) Program. Please see the reverse of this notice for more information on the RAD exam program. Participants are selected each year as not all students progress at the same pace every year. Generally, dancers must have been students at ABSA for at least one year to take the exam. New students who do not complete both semesters, fall and spring, may not be technically strong enough or fully comfortable with the exercises taught to participate in exams.

For Pre-Ballet 3 students, only one class is required per semester unless otherwise directed. For Pre-Ballet 4 dancers, two classes per week are required in the spring semester. For Classical Ballet level dancers, two or three classes per week, according to grade level, are required all year. Vocational levels require three classes per week without exception. There will also be between 1-3 rehearsals in the spring to prepare for the exams. Exam candidates must register for all of their spring classes by Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> to be included in the exam as Maryland Hall assigns studio space for classes, exams and rehearsals based on our class rosters.

This year's ABSA exams will be held on a weekday or Saturday during March or April 2018; however, the Academy schedules the final exam dates and times. Pre-Ballet 3 (RAD Pre-Primary) and PB4 (RAD Primary) exams last about one hour, while Classical Ballet and Vocational exams require a longer time. Schools are generally accepting of the exam as an excused absence and an ABSA instructor will sign a note to school if requested.

**For your dancer to participate in the RAD exams, you must register and pay the exam fee online by no later than Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, using our studio's website (this is not the Maryland Hall class registration site):**  
[www.academyballetschool.com/absa/examfee](http://www.academyballetschool.com/absa/examfee)

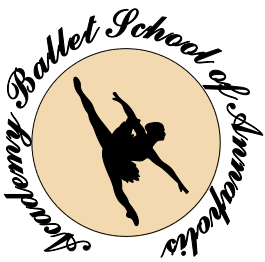
More information regarding the schedules for exam rehearsals and the exam itself will follow in the spring. In the meantime, please contact me with any questions at [academyballet.rad@gmail.com](mailto:academyballet.rad@gmail.com) or 410-849-2942. I hope you will seriously consider this unique opportunity for your dancer to demonstrate his/her ballet technique.

Sincerely, Eileen Razzetti, RAD RTS

### **Exam Fees by Class Level:**

Practice Folder (all levels)		\$20.00*	
<i>*The cost of the practice folder is not included in the exam fee and must be added to the total.</i>			
	Exam Fee	Folder Fee*	Total Fee
Pre-Ballet 3 (RAD Pre-Primary)	\$76.00	+ \$20.00	\$96.00
Pre-Ballet 4 (RAD Primary)	\$86.00	+ \$20.00	\$106.00
Classical Ballet Grade 1	\$96.00	+ \$20.00	\$116.00
Classical Ballet Grade 2	\$101.00	+ \$20.00	\$121.00
Classical Ballet Grade 3	\$106.00	+ \$20.00	\$126.00
Classical Ballet Grade 5	\$131.00	+ \$20.00	\$151.00
Classical Ballet Grade 6	\$141.00	+ \$20.00	\$161.00
Advanced 1	\$220.00	+ \$20.00	\$240.00

The exam fees include: the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) exam fee, rehearsal instruction and studio space, and professional pianist fee. The practice folder is required for student practice at home and will include a grade-level CD or DVD and graded class exam notes. Some students may have already received their folders.



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## The Royal Academy of Dance Syllabus and Exam Program

### What is the Royal Academy of Dance?

RAD is a worldwide organization founded in 1920 to advance the standards of teaching in classical ballet.

Our Registered Teachers provide the best training in classical ballet for children through adults.

### How are the examinations conducted?

A RAD examiner who is highly trained and follows strict quality assurance protocols will come to our studio for several days to examine our students. Students perform exercises from their class syllabus and are examined with their assigned group. Each student is graded against a set of assessment criteria specific to that grade level. The time required, depending on grade level, is one to two hours, including preparation time.

### Why should my dancer take the RAD exams?

RAD exams provide ballet students with:

- ✎ an objective, well-defined goal to work towards in their dance instruction
- ✎ recognition from the world's largest ballet Examination Board
- ✎ a certificate of achievement that is recognized by studios and dance organizations around the world
- ✎ the motivation to achieve their personal best in a fun, nurturing environment

<b>RAD Syllabus Objectives by Grade Levels</b> <i>includes Classical Ballet, Free Movement &amp; Character Dance</i>		
<b>Classical Grades 1 – 3</b>	<b>Classical Grades 4 – 5</b>	<b>Classical Grades 6 – 8</b>
Coordinate simple movements to produce a combination of steps	Demonstrate an increased range of movements in longer and more complex sequences	Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of dance movements
Respond sensitively to music	Show an increased sensitivity to music	Interpret music sensitively in performance
Perform with confidence in front of an audience	Perform with increased confidence in front of an audience	Perform with confidence and self-awareness
<b>Vocational Levels</b> – <i>Intermediate Foundation, Intermediate, Advanced Foundation, Advanced I and II:</i> The vocational levels allow students to study ballet in more depth with a view toward a possible career in dance performance or instruction.		